

Kenya to test one million for Aids November 24, 2009

More than one million Kenyans are expected to get tested for HIV during a national campaign.

Health ministry officials will go door-to-door during a three-week drive to more than double the number of people checked since voluntary testing clinics were set up in 2004.

In an effort to push up the number of people tested, the health ministry will be rolling out testing at night, at workplaces, from door-to-door, and in mobile test centres across the country. Public Health and Sanitation minister Beth Mugo says too many Kenyans are dying not because they have Aids but because they simply do not know they are HIV-positive and therefore are not getting treatment.

"We can not claim to protect our loved ones yet we do not want to get tested," Mrs. Mugo said.

Between 7% and 8.5% of the adult population suffers from HIV/Aids. Teams of health department workers will knock on as many doors as they can over the next three weeks, hoping to reach one million people. Last year, in a similar campaign last year, 700,000 people were tested.

To read the original article, click here.

For more information, please contact Lisa Mendelson at (202) 777-3561 or Imendelson@clsdc.com.

This material is distributed by Chlopak, Leonard, Schechter & Associates on behalf of the Office of the President of the Republic of Kenya. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

209 DEC - 2

AM 8:

NSD/CES/REGISTRATION